

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/531,507  
Filing Date: April 14, 2005  
Applicant: Eiji Oki, et al.  
Group Art Unit: 2613  
Examiner: Quan-Zhen Wang  
Title: Optical Node Device, Network Control Device,  
Maintenance-Staff Device, Optical Network, and 3R Relay  
Implementation Node Decision Method  
Attorney Docket: 5259-000051/NP

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2008, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Group 1, readable on claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14-17, 24, and 35-40, drawn to an optical node device that can implement 3R relay, for prosecution in this application. Applicant makes this election without prejudice and reserves the right to prosecute the remaining claims at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 8, 2008

By: /Timothy D. MacIntyre/  
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